Dewan's reply.—The Deputy Commissioner is of opinion that the year does not threaten to be one of those exceptional years for which the standing orders provide remissions. But the Deputy Commissioners will make due enquiries at Jamabandi and report if necessary.

Subject No. 13.

Refusal to grant Kharab lands for cultivation where assessed land is available.

Summary of discussion.—Amildars often refuse applications for unassessed unoccupied lands for cultivation on the ground that assessed waste land is available in the village. This entails hardship as it is often found that very inferior or altogether uncultivable land is assessed, while arable land has been measured up with Kharab and remains unassessed.

Note.—A representation to the same effect was made by Representatives from the Chellakere Taluk, Chitaldroog District.

Dewan's reply.—There is no rule justifying such refusal as has here been brought to notice. The Survey Department probably took objection in individual cases in which the assessed available waste was very large and the application for unassessed waste in the circumstances required explanation. An explanatory circular will be issued so as to remove any misapprehension which may exist.

Subject No. 14.

Investiture of Tarikere Amildar with powers to try cases under Act XIII of 1859.

Summary of discussion.—The Amildar of Tarikere should have 2nd Class Magistrate's powers to allow of his being empowered to take cognizance of complaints under the Criminal Breach of Contract Act XIII of 1859. At present there is considerable inconvenience caused to Planters by their having to go a great distance for action under the said Act.

Dewan's reply.—Government will endeavour to send to the Taluk only Amildars fit to be entrusted with 2nd Class powers and thereby also to exercise powers under Act XIII of 1859.

Subject No. 15.

Railway from Birur to Shimoga *vid* Tarikere.

Summary of discussion.—It is necessary to connect Shimoga with the Southern Mahratta Railway at Birur by a Railway line passing through Tarikere.

Dewan's reply.—The proposed Railway is under consideration.

Subject No. 16.

Temporary dams across kodis of tanks.

Summary of discussion.—Kodis to tanks yielding more than 300 Rs. revenue having been lowered two or three feet, permission has been granted to construct temporary dams so as to raise the height by one foot. These structures should be allowed to be kept on permanently.

Dewan's reply.—The height of kodi or waste weir is always fixed after due consideration of all conditions affecting the safety of the tank itself. Where, however, it is possible without danger to the tank to store water at the close of the rainy season to a higher level than that at which it is necessary to keep the kodi during the season of floods, temporary dams are allowed subject to removal at the beginning of the rainy season. The proposal to make all these temporary dams permanent is most inexpedient, as it would lead to the breach of most of the tanks during the rains. Where however the kodi can in any particular case be raised with safety, the work should be of a permanent nature. This is being done by the Public Works Department whenever found necessary, and any such cases brought to notice will be duly considered by the local Revenue and Engineer officers.

Subject No. 17.

Inclusion of free grazing land in State Forests.

Summary of discussion.—At the demarcation of 1887 certain jungles in Hirikatur and other 9 villages were allotted as free grazing land. But they have been since added to State Forests.

The Forest Department are now reserving as State Forests certain jungles in Lingadahalli and Lakkavalli Maganis which are now available for grazing and than which there is no other. This should be stopped.

Dewan's reply.—The representation will be referred to the Deputy Commissioner for examination. If found necessary, the boundary of the State Forests referred to will be thrown back, as has been done in several cases brought to the notice of the local Revenue officers.

Subject No. 18.

Limitation of term of office of Municipal Commissioners.

Summary of discussion.—Members of the Municipal Board have been members from the time the Municipality was established. The office is not hereditary and yet it has been treated as if it were so. There are always a large number of eligible persons available and therefore the tenure of office should be limited to 5 years.

Dewan's reply.—The proposal is reasonable and a rule like it will be adopted with a proviso that members will be eligible for re-appointment at the end of 5 years.

Subject No. 19.

Seigniorage on fuel cut for sale.

Summary of discussion.—It has been locally proclaimed that fuel for purpose of sale can be cut in reserved tracts only on paid licenses. This will cause much hardship and the order should be countermanded.

Dewan's reply.—Impossible. Agriculturists and Mohatarfa-paying charcoal burners and iron smelters are allowed free firewood for their own *bonâ fide* use. What can be more reasonable? Surely our forests don't